

Message Text

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47 45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-04 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

AEC-05 MC-01 L-02 /053 W

----- 121403

R 151253Z NOV 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7804

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 40

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 8917

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: SURVEILLANCE OF EC IMPORTS OF ELECTRONIC
CALCULATORS FROM US

1. SUMMARY: THE COMMISSION IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING SUB-
JECTING ALL IMPORTS OF ELECTRONIC CALCULATORS TO THE
"SURVEILLANCE" THAT HAS HERETOFORE APPLIED ONLY TO
JAPANESE CALCULATORS. AMERICAN CALCULATORS MAY, HOWEVER,
BE PARTIALLY EXEMPTED BY MEANS OF A VALUE OR SIZE BRACKET.
SURVEILLANCE DOES NOT MEAN QUANTITATIVE LIMITATION. END SUMMARY.

2. LOERKE AND BESELER OF THE EC COMMISSION'S DIRECTORATE
GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS HAVE GIVEN THE MISSION
"EARLY WARNING" THAT THE EC MAY EXTEND THE "SURVEILLANCE"
THAT HAS FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS BEEN APPLIED TO
JAPANESE ELECTRONIC CALCULATORS, TO ELECTRONIC CAL-
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CULATORS FROM ALL SOURCES. TWO KINDS OF PRESSURES

ARE WORKING IN THIS DIRECTION. FIRST, THE NORMAL DOMESTIC INDUSTRY DESIRES FOR PROTECTION ARE ACCENTUATED IN THIS CASE BY THE LARGE SHARE OF THE EC MARKET TAKEN BY IMPORTED CALCULATORS--70 PERCENT, BESELER AND LOERKE SAY. SECOND, THE JAPANESE HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT BEING SINGLED OUT, GIVEN THE LARGE VOLUME OF EC IMPORTS FROM OTHER EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES AND FROM THE US.

3. BESELER SAYS HE IS TRYING TO ARRANGE A BREAK-DOWN OF THE ELECTRONIC CALCULATOR CATEGORY. IF HE SUCCEEDS, SMALL CALCULATORS WHICH, HE SAYS, CONSTITUTE THE BULK OF EC IMPORTS FROM THE US, WOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO SURVEILLANCE, BUT LARGE DESK CALCULATORS, WHICH MORE DIRECTLY COMPETE WITH INTERNAL EC PRODUCTION, WOULD BE.

4. BESELER EMPHASIZES THAT "SURVEILLANCE" DOES NOT MEAN RESTRICTION. HE CLAIMS THAT IMPORTS OF JAPANESE CALCULATORS HAVE NOT BEEN AFFECTED BY BEING SUBJECT TO SURVEILLANCE. THE FORM THIS TAKES VARIES, HE SAYS, FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY. IN GERMANY, FOR EXAMPLE, IMPORTERS OF CALCULATORS MUST FILE A SPECIAL IMPORT DECLARATION FORM WHICH, BESELER SAYS, IS EXPEDITIOUSLY AND ROUTINELY HANDLED BY THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES. FRANCE USES A SIMILAR SYSTEM OF "VISA TECHNIQUE". BENELUX COUNTRIES USE AUTOMATIC LICENSING, AND IMPORTS INTO THE UK ARE UNDER OPEN LICENSING.

5. WE HAVE INFORMED OUR COMMISSION SOURCES THAT, EVEN IF SURVEILLANCE ENTAILS NO MORE THAN THEY REPORT, IT WOULD CONSTITUTE A NEW BURDEN FOR IMPORTERS OF AMERICAN CALCULATORS, AND ON THAT GROUND US OPPOSITION CAN BE EXPECTED. THEY ACCEPT THIS ARGUMENT BUT SEEM PRETTY SURE THAT THE COMMISSION WILL GO AHEAD WITH ITS PLANS. LOERKE HAS, HOWEVER, UNOFFICIALLY SUGGESTED THAT IF THE US WERE TO INDICATE HOW THE PRODUCT COVERAGE OF THE SURVEILLANCE COULD BE REDUCED TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF US TRADE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AFFECTED, ITS VIEWS WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.MYERSON

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Message Attributes

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